

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 000009-007

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A stage-geared gearbox for motor vehicles, comprising :
an unsynchronized basic gearbox, the unsynchronized basic gearbox comprising at least one unsynchronized gear;,
at least one synchronized auxiliary gear; and
at least one control unit for controlling engagement and disengagement of the unsynchronized and synchronized auxiliary gears of the gearbox and also neutral position positions of the unsynchronized and synchronized gears, wherein the control unit is arranged so as, when the control unit receives a driver shift input signals indicating that to put all unsynchronized gears of the basic gearbox in a basic gearbox neutral position is selected are received, to put the control unit puts the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear in an auxiliary gear neutral position.
2. (Currently Amended) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the synchronized auxiliary gear is in the auxiliary gear neutral position, the control unit is arranged so as in the basic gearbox to keep keeps a previous previously selected gear of the basic gearbox engaged while the neutral position is occupied.
3. (Currently Amended) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a split gear.
4. (Currently Amended) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a range gear.

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5. (Currently Amended) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a split gear.

6. (Currently Amended) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a range gear.

7. (New) The stage-geared gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control unit is arranged to engage a stage of the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear when all unsynchronized gears of the basic gearbox are in the basic gearbox neutral position and an engine with which the stage-geared gearbox is associated stops.